

**TITLE OF INVENTION: AN APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ICE FISHING
UTILIZING THE JIG FISHING SYSTEM™**

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CLAIMS

I claim:

1. An apparatus for fishing, utilizing a fishing rod and line, comprising:
 - (a) a plurality of support members, wherein said support members comprise an upper frame of said apparatus;
 - (b) a base, wherein said base comprises a lower frame of said apparatus and wherein at least one support member is attached to said base;
 - (c) a triggering mechanism, wherein said triggering mechanism is attached to a support member;
 - (d) a rod holder, wherein said rod holder is attached to a support member; and
 - (e) a signaling mechanism, wherein said signaling mechanism is attached to a support member,wherein said upper frame connects to said lower frame and said rod holder comprises an opening to support said fishing rod, and wherein said fishing line is threaded through said triggering mechanism, said triggering mechanism, and subsequently said signaling mechanism, are activated when said fishing line is pulled.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said triggering system, said rod holder and said signaling mechanism are housed in one support member, wherein said apparatus comprises a support member and a base, which may be separated for storage.
3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said signaling mechanism comprises a visual strike indicator, said visual strike indicator is a high intensity strobe light, and a power source.
4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said signaling mechanism comprises an audible strike indicator of the type that is easily heard over 150 feet away, and a power source.

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5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said base support is as shown in FIG. 10 and said support members are as shown in FIG. 3;
6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said base support comprises wind drag screws and ballast.
7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said signaling mechanism comprises:
 - (a) a triggering arm;
 - (b) a trigger/stop bracket; and
 - (c) a proximity switch, wherein said proximity switch closes a circuit when said triggering arm advances to said trigger/stop bracket.
8. An apparatus for ice fishing, utilizing a fishing rod and line, comprising:
 - (f) a plurality of support members, wherein said support members comprise an upper frame of said apparatus;
 - (g) a base, wherein said base comprises a lower frame of said apparatus and wherein at least one support member is attached to said base;
 - (h) a triggering mechanism, wherein said triggering mechanism is attached to a support member;
 - (i) a rod holder, wherein said rod holder is attached to a support member; and
 - (j) a signaling mechanism, wherein said signaling mechanism is attached to a support member,wherein said rod holder comprises an opening to support said fishing rod, and wherein said fishing line is threaded through said triggering mechanism, said triggering mechanism, and subsequently said signaling mechanism, are activated when said fishing line is pulled.

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9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said triggering system, said rod holder and said signaling mechanism are housed in one support member, wherein said apparatus comprises a support member and a base which may be separated for storage.
10. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said signaling mechanism comprises a visual strike indicator.
11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said visual strike indicator is a high intensity strobe light.
12. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said signaling mechanism comprises an audible strike indicator.
13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said audible strike indicator is of the type that is easily heard over 150 feet away.
14. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said signaling mechanism comprises a power source.
15. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said base support is as shown in FIG. 10.
16. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said base support comprises wind drag screws.
17. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said base support comprises ballast.
18. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said signaling mechanism comprises:
 - (d) a triggering arm;
 - (e) a trigger/stop bracket; and
 - (f) a proximity switch, wherein said proximity switch closes a circuit when said triggering arm advances to said trigger/stop bracket.
19. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein:
 - (a) said triggering system, said rod holder and said signaling mechanism are housed in one support member, wherein said apparatus comprises a support member and a which may be separated for storage;
 - (b) said signaling mechanism comprises a visual strike indicator comprising a high intensity strobe light;

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- (c) said signaling mechanism comprises an audible strike indicator of the type that is easily heard over 150 feet away;
- (d) said signaling mechanism comprises a power source;
- (e) said base support is as shown in FIG. 10 and said support members are as shown in FIG. 3;
- (f) said base support comprises wind drag screws;
- (g) said base support comprises ballast;
- (h) said signaling mechanism comprises:
 - (i) a triggering arm;
 - (ii) a trigger/stop bracket; and
 - (iii) a proximity switch, wherein said proximity switch closes a circuit when said triggering arm advances to said trigger/stop bracket.

20. A method of ice fishing, utilizing a fishing rod, a bail, a line and a bait, comprising the steps of:

- (a) connecting a base support to at least one support member, wherein said base support comprises a lower frame and said support member(s) comprise an upper frame;
- (b) setting said fishing pole in a rod holder, said rod holder being housed in one of said support members;
- (c) threading said fishing line through a fishing line holder of a triggering mechanism, said triggering mechanism being mounted on one of said support members;
- (d) setting said bail on said fishing rod to the open position;
- (e) activating of said triggering mechanism, and subsequently said signaling mechanism when said a fish pulls on said line;